

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 23-25, 38-40 and 42 are currently pending, with claims 1-7, 27-37 and 43-50 withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-elected invention. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 23 and 39 are amended without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce the unamended claims in this or another application. New claim 51 is introduced upon entry of this amendment. Support for this new claim is found throughout the specification including, for example, at page 12, lines 7-10 and page 67, lines 20-22. Claims 23-25, 38-40, 42 and 50 are thus pending following entry of this amendment.

II. Interview

The undersigned thanks Examiner Christina Chan and Examiner Michail Belyavskyi for the very helpful and constructive telephonic interview held September 29, 2004. The undersigned and Applicants are very appreciative of the time Examiners Chan and Belyavskyi spent discussing this application. The interview involved a discussion of possible claim amendments. This paper incorporates amendments and remarks presented during the interview.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, First and Second Paragraph

Claims 23-25, 38-40 and 42 are rejected because the phrase "determining an interaction profile" is said to be indefinite and to lack support in the specification.

To provide greater clarity, claim 23 has been amended to delete process (c) and to state that the method involves detecting whether the PL protein interacts with the PDZ- domain polypeptide at each site of the array to determine which of the PDZ-domain polypeptides the PL protein interacts with, thereby obtaining the interaction profile for the PL protein. This amendment is consistent with, for example, the methods described at page 24, line 29 through page 27, which includes Table 2. For further clarity, the specification at page 25, line 21 has also

been amended as requested by the examiners to bring the language in the specification into conformity with the language used in the claims.

The language of claim 23 as amended itself provides a description of the term interaction profile. The claim and specification amendments are also consistent with MPEP2163.07, which states that "mere rephrasing of a passage does not constitute new matter" and that "the mere inclusion of dictionary or art recognized definitions known at the time of filing an application would not be considered new matter." Copies of the definition for "profile" from Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary (1997) and Steadman's Medical Dictionary (26th edition, 1995) are attached and provide definitions that are consistent with the original description of the methods in the specification (e.g., pages 24-27).

IV. Amendments to the Specification

The title and abstract have been amended to reflect more accurately the currently claimed invention. These amendments are supported throughout the specification, including pages 24-27 and pages 65 and 66. Thus, these amendments introduce no new matter.

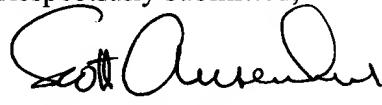
V. Drawings

A set of formal drawings is enclosed. These drawings differ from the drawings that were filed in that they conform with the formal requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.84. These new drawings introduce no new matter.

Appl. No. 09/688,017
Amdt. dated October 6, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 6, 2004

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

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professedly ● program

pro-fessed-ly \prə-fes-əd-lē, -fes-tid-lē\ *adv* 1: by profession or declaration : AVOWEDLY 2: with pretense : ALLEGEDLY

pro-fes-sion \prə-fesh-ən\ *n* 1: the act of taking the vows of a religious community 2: an act of openly declaring or publicly claiming a belief, faith, or opinion : PROTESTATION 3: an avowed religious faith 4: a: a calling requiring specialized knowledge and often long and intensive academic preparation b: a principal calling, vocation, or employment c: the whole body of persons engaged in a calling

pro-fes-sion-al \prə-fesh-nəl, -ənl\ *adj* 1 a: of, relating to, or characteristic of a profession b: engaged in one of the learned professions c: characterized by or conforming to the technical or ethical standards of a profession 2 a: participating for gain or livelihood in an activity or field of endeavor often engaged in by amateurs b: engaged in by persons receiving financial return <~ football> 3: following a line of conduct as though it were a profession <~ patriot> — **pro-fes-sion-al-ly** \-ē\ *adv*

professional *n* : one that engages in a pursuit or activity professionally

pro-fes-sion-al-ism \-iz-əm\ *n* 1: the conduct, aims, or qualities that characterize or mark a profession or a professional person 2: the following of a profession (as athletics) for gain or livelihood

pro-fes-sion-al-ize \-iz\ *v* -ized; -iz-ing : to give a professional character to — **pro-fes-sion-al-iza-tion** \-fesh-nəl-əzāshən, -ənl-əz\ *n*

pro-fes-sor \prə-fes-ər\ *n* 1: one that professes, avows, or declares 2 a: a faculty member of the highest academic rank at an institution of higher education b: a teacher at a university, college, or sometimes secondary school c: one that teaches or professes special knowledge of an art, sport, or occupation requiring skill — **pro-fes-so-ri-al** \prə-fes-ərē-əl, -prāf-ərē-əl\, -prāf-ə, -sōrē-əl\ *adj* — **pro-fes-so-ri-al-ly** \-ē-əlē\ *adv*

pro-fes-sor-ate \prə-fes-ər-ət\ *n* : the office, term of office, or position of a professor

pro-fes-so-ri-at \prə-fes-ərē-ət, -āt\ *n* [modif. of F *professeur*, fr. L *professor*] 1: the body of college and university teachers at an institution or in society 2: PROFESSORSHIP

pro-fes-sor-ship \prə-fes-ər-ship\ *n* : the office, duties, or position of an academic professor

prof-fer \prəf-ər\ *v* **prof-fered; prof-fer-ing** \-fər-ing\ [ME *profren*, fr. AF *profren*, fr. OF *porfri*, fr. *por-* forth (fr. L *pro-*) + *offr* to offer — more at PRO-] : to present for acceptance : TENDER, OFFER

proffer *n* : OFFER, SUGGESTION

pro-fi-cien-cy \prə-fish-ən-sē\ *n* 1: advancement in knowledge or skill : PROGRESS 2: the quality or state of being proficient

pro-fi-cient \prə-fish-ənt\ *adj* [L *proficiens*, pp. of *proficere* to go forward, accomplish, fr. *pro-* forward + *facer* to make — more at PRO-] : well advanced in an art, occupation, or branch of knowledge — **proficient** *n* — **pro-fi-cien-tly** \-ēv\ : syn PROFICIENT. ADEPT, SKILLED, SKILLFUL. EXPERT shared meaning element : having or manifesting the knowledge and experience needed for success in a trade or profession

pro-file \prō-fil\ [It *profilare* to draw in outline, fr. *pro-* forward (fr. L) + *filare* to spin, fr. LL — more at FILE] 1: a representation of something in outline; esp: a human head or face represented or seen in a side view 2: an outline seen or represented in sharp relief : CONTOUR 3: a: a side or sectional elevation; as: a: a drawing showing a vertical section of the ground b: a vertical section of a soil exposing its various zones or inclusions 4: a set of data often in graphic form portraying the significant features of something <~ a corporation's earnings ~>; esp: a graph representing the extent to which an individual exhibits traits or abilities as determined by tests or ratings 5: a concise biographical sketch syn see OUTLINE

profile *v* **pro-filed; pro-fil-ing** 1: to represent in profile or by a profile : produce (as by drawing, writing, or graphing) a profile of 2: to shape the outline of by passing a cutter around — **pro-fil-er** *n*

prof-it \prāf-ət\ *n* [often attrib [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *profectus* advance, profit, fr. *profectus*, pp. of *proficere*]] 1: a valuable return : GAIN 2: the excess of returns over expenditure in a transaction or series of transactions; esp: the excess of the selling price of goods over their cost 3: net income usu. for a given period of time 4: the ratio of profit for a given year to the amount of capital invested or to the value of sales 5: the compensation accruing to entrepreneurs for the assumption of risk in business enterprise as distinguished from wages or rent — **prof-it-less** \-ləs\ *adj*

prof-it *v* 1: to be of service or advantage : AVAIL 2: to derive benefit : GAIN ~ *v* : to be of service to : BENEFIT

prof-it-able \prāf-ət-ə-bəl, \prāf-tə-bəl\ *adj* : affording profits yielding advantageous returns or results syn see BENEFIT

prof-it-able-ty \prāf-ət-ə-bil-ətē\ *n* — **prof-it-able-ness** \prāf-ət-ə-bəl-əs\ *n* — **prof-it-ably** \-bliē\ *adv*

profit and loss *n* : a summary account used at the end of an accounting period to collect the balances of the nominal accounts so that the net profit or loss may be shown

profiteer \prāf-ə-tiər\ *n* : one who makes what is considered an unreasonable profit esp. on the sale of essential goods during times of emergency — **profiteer** *v*

profiteering *n* : a system or process under which employees receive a part of the profits of an industrial or commercial enterprise

prof-it system *n* : FREE ENTERPRISE

prof-li-ga-cy \prāf-li-gə-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being profigate

prof-li-gate \prāf-li-gāt, -lāgāt\ *adj* [L *profiliatus*, fr. pp. of *profiliare* to strike down, fr. *pro-* forward, down + *fligere* (akin to *fligere* to strike); akin to Gk *thlibein* to squeeze] 1: completely given up to dissipation and licentiousness 2: wildly-extravagant — **PRODIGAL** — **prof-li-gate-ly** \-ēdē\ *adv*

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profli-gate *n* : a person given to wildly extravagant and usu. grossly self-indulgent expenditure syn see SPENDTHRIFT

pro-flu-ent \prāf-lū-ənt, \prōf-, prōfli-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *profliuent-*, *profliuen* pp. of *profliuere* to flow forth, fr. *pro-* forth + *fluere* to flow — more at PRO- FLUENT] : flowing copiously or smoothly

pro for-ma \(\)prō-fōr-mā\ *adj* [L] 1: made or carried out in a perfunctory manner or as a formality 2: provided in advance to prescribe form or describe items <*pro forma* invoice>

pro-found \prə-faund, prō-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *profond* deep, fr. L *profundus*, fr. *pro-* before + *fundus* bottom — more at PRO- BOTTOM] 1 a: having intellectual depth and insight b: difficult to fathom or understand 2 a: extending far below the surface b: coming from, reaching to, or situated at a depth : DEEP-SEAED <~ a sigh> 3 a: characterized by intensity of feeling or quality b: all encompassing : COMPLETE <~ sleep> syn see DEEP, ANT shallow — **pro-found-ly** \-fān(d)-dē\ *adv* — **pro-found-ness** \-fān(d)-nəs\ *n*

profound *n* [archaic] : something that is very deep; specif: the depths of the sea

pro-fun-di-ty \prāf-fən-dətē\ *n*, pl. -ties [ME *profundite*, fr. MF *profunditāt*, fr. L *profunditāt*, *profunditas* depth, fr. *profundus*] 1 a: intellectual depth b: something profound or abstruse 2: the quality or state of being very profound or deep

pro-fuse \prāf-fyūs, prō-\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *profusus*, pp. of *profundere* to pour forth, fr. *pro-* forth + *fundere* to pour — more at FOUND] 1: pouring forth liberally : EXTRAVAGANT <~ in their thanks> 2: exhibiting great abundance : BOUNTIFUL <~ harvest> — **pro-fuse-ly** *adv* — **pro-fuse-ness** *n*

syn PROFUSE, LAVISH, PRODIGAL, LUXURANT, LUSH, EXUBERANT shared meaning element : giving or given out in great abundance

ant spare, scanty, scant

pro-fu-sion \-fū-zhən\ *n* 1: lavish expenditure : EXTRAVAGANCE 2: the quality or state of being profuse 3: lavish display

prog \prāg\ *v* **prog-ged; prog-ging** [origin unknown] **chiefly dial** 1: to search about : FORAGE

prog *n*, **chiefly dial** : FOOD, VITALS

pro-ga-mete \prō-gā-mēt, (\)prō-gām-ēt\ *n* [ISV]: a cell giving rise to gametes: a: OCYTE b: SPERMATOCYTE

progen-i-tor \prō-jen-ətər, prā-\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *progeniteur*, fr. L *progenitor*, fr. *progenitus*, pp. of *progignere* to beget, fr. *pro-* forth + *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] 1 a: an ancestor in the direct line: FOREFATHER b: a biologically-ancestral form 2: PRECURSOR, ORIGINATOR <~s of socialist ideas — *Times Lit. Supp.*>

progen-ty \prāj-ənē\ *n*, pl. -ties [ME *progenie*, fr. OF, fr. L *progenies*, fr. *progeniere*] 1 a: DESCENDANTS, CHILDREN b: offspring of animals or plants 2: OUTCOME, PRODUCT 3: a body of followers, disciples, or supporters

pro-ge-sa-tion-al \prō-jes-ətāshənl, -shənl\ *adj* : preceding pregnancy or gestation; esp: of, relating to, inducing, or constituting the modifications of the female mammalian system associated with ovulation and corpus luteum formation <~ hormones>

pro-ge-ter-one \prō-jes-tə-rōn\ *n* [progestin + sterol + -one] : a steroid progestational hormone C₂₁H₂₈O₂

pro-ge-stin \-jes-tən\ *n* [pro- + gestation + -in]: a progestational hormone esp: PROGESTERONE

pro-ge-to-gen \-tə-jən\ *n* [progestational + -ogen (as in estrogen)] : any of several progestational steroids (as progesterone)

pro-glott-id \(\)prō-glāt-əd\ *n* [NL *proglottis*]: a segment of a tapeworm containing both male and female reproductive organs

pro-glott-i-de-an \prō-glāt-ə-dē-ən, \prō-glāt-ə-dē-\ *adj*

pro-glott-is \(\)prō-glāt-əs\ *n*, pl. -glott-i-des \-glāt-ə-dēz\ [NL *proglottis*, *proglottis*, fr. Gk *proglottis* tip of the tongue, fr. *pro-* + *glotta* tongue — more at GLOSS]: PROGLOTTID

pro-na-thic \prāg-nāth-ik, -nāthik\ *adj* : PROGNATHOUS

pro-na-thism \prāg-nā-thiz-əm, prāg-nā-\ *n* : prognathous condition

pro-na-thous \-thəs\ *adj* : having the jaws projecting beyond the upper part of the face

pro-nos-sis \prāg-nō-səs\ *n*, pl. -no-ses \-sēz\ [LL, fr. Gk *prognōsis*, lit. foreknowledge, fr. *prognōskein* to know before, fr. *pro-* + *gnōskein* to know — more at KNOW] 1: the prospect of recovery as anticipated from the usual course of disease or peculiarities of the case 2: FORECAST, PROGNOSTICATION

pro-nos-tic \prāg-nās-tik\ *n* [ME *pronostique*, fr. MF, fr. L *prognosticum*, fr. Gk *prognostikos*, fr. neut. of *prognostikos* foretelling, fr. *prognōskein*] 1: something that foretells: PORTENT 2: PROGNOSTICATION, PROPHECY — **prognostic** *adj*

pro-nos-ti-cate \prāg-nās-tə-kāt\ *v* -cat-ed; -cat-ing 1: to foretell from signs or symptoms: PREDICT 2: FORESHOW, PRESAGE syn see FÖRETELL — **pro-nos-ti-cative** \-kāt-iv\ *adj* — **pro-nos-ti-ca-tor** \-kāt-ər\ *n*

pro-nos-ti-ca-tion \(\)prāg-nās-tə-kāshən\ *n* 1: an indication in advance: FORETOKEN 2 a: an act, the fact, or the power of prognosticating: FORECAST b: FOREBODING

pro-grade \prō-grād\ *adj* [L *pro-* forward + *gradus* to go — more at PRO- GRADE] : being or relating to orbital or rotational motion of a body that is in the same direction as that of another celestial body <~ orbit of a satellite>

pro-gram or **pro-gramme** \prō-gram, \prō-gramm\ *n* [F *programme* agenda, public notice, fr. Gk *programma*, fr. *programein* to write before, fr. *pro-* before + *graphein* to write] 1 [LL *programma*, fr. Gk] : a public notice 2 a: a brief usu. printed outline of the order to be followed, of the feature or features to be presented, and the persons participating (as in a public exercise, performance, or entertainment) b: the performance of a program; esp: a performance broadcast on radio or television 3: a plan or system

ə abut * kitten or further a back ā bake ā cot, cart
 ā out ch chin e less ē easy g gift i trip i life
 j joke g sing ð flow ð flaw ð coin ð thin ð this
 ü loot ü foot y yet ü few yû furious zh vision

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product

cleavage p., a substance resulting from the splitting of a molecule into two or more simpler molecules.

double p., the p. of systolic blood pressure multiplied by the heart frequency; a measure of heart work load. SEE Robinson index.

end p., the final p. in a metabolic pathway.

fibrin/fibrinogen degradation p.'s (FDP), several poorly characterized small peptides, designated X, Y, D, and E, that result following the action of plasmin on fibrinogen and fibrin in the fibrinolytic process.

fission p., an atomic species produced in the course of the fission of a larger atom such as ^{235}U .

natural p.'s, naturally occurring compounds that are end p.'s of secondary metabolism; often, they are unique compounds for particular organisms or classes of organisms.

orphan p.'s, drugs, biologicals, and medical devices (including diagnostic *in vitro* tests) that may be useful in common or rare diseases but which are not considered commercially viable. SYN orphan drugs.

spallation p., an atomic species produced in the course of the spallation of any atom.

substitution p., a p. obtained by replacing one atom or group in a molecule with another atom or group.

produc-tive (prō-dük'tiv). Producing or capable of producing; denoting especially an inflammation leading to the production of new tissue with or without an exudate. [see product]

pro-elas-tase (prō-ē-las'tās). The precursor protein of elastase; formed in the pancreas (in vertebrates) and converted to elastase by the action of trypsin.

pro-e-mi-al (prō-ē-mē-äl). SYN prodromal. [L. *proemium*, fr. G. *prooimion*, prelude]

pro-en-ceph-a-lon (prō-en-sef'ā-lon). SYN prosencephalon.

pro-en-keph-a-lin (prō-en-kef'ā-lin). A precursor protein that contains several enkephalin sequences. Cf. propiocortin.

pro-en-zyme (prō-en'zim). The precursor of an enzyme, requiring some change (usually the hydrolysis of an inhibiting fragment that masks an active grouping) to render it active; e.g., pepsinogen, trypsinogen, profibrolisin. SYN zymogen.

pro-e-ryth-ro-blast (prō-ē-rith'rō-blast). SYN pronormoblast.

pro-e-ryth-ro-cyte (prō-ē-rith'rō-sīt). The precursor of an erythrocyte; an immature red blood cell with a nucleus.

pro-es-tro-gen (prō-es'trō-jen). A substance that acts as an estrogen only after it has been metabolized in the body to an active compound.

pro-es-trum (prō-es'trūm). SYN proestrus.

pro-es-trus (prō-es'trūs). The period in the estrus cycle preceding estrus, characterized by the growth of the Graafian follicles and physiologic changes related to estrogen production. SYN proestrus.

pro-fen-a-mine hy-dro-chlo-ride (pro-fen'ā-mēn). SYN ethopropazine hydrochloride.

Profeta, Giuseppe, Italian dermatologist, 1840-1910. SEE P.'s law.

pro-fi-bri-nol-y-sin (prō-fí-bri-nol'i-sin). SEE plasmin.

pro-fi-lac-tin (prō-fil-ak'tin). A complex of actin and profilin. Cf. profilin.

pro-file (prō-fil). 1. An outline or contour, especially one representing a side view of the human head. SYN norma [NA]. 2. A summary, brief account, or record. [It. *profilo*, fr. L. *pro*, forward, + *filum*, thread, line (contour)]

biochemical p., a combination of biochemical tests usually performed with automated instrumentation upon admission of a patient to a hospital or clinic.

biophysical p., technique for evaluating fetal status using fetal heart rate monitoring and ultrasound assessment of amniotic fluid volume, fetal movement, and fetal breathing motion.

facial p., (1) the outline form of the face from a lateral view; (2) the sagittal outline form of the face.

personality p., (1) a method by which the results of psychological testing are presented in graphic form; (2) a vignette or brief personality description.

test p., a combination of laboratory tests usually performed by automated methods and designed to evaluate organ systems of patients upon admission to a hospital or clinic.

urethral pressure p., the continual recording of pressure through a hole in the side of a small catheter as it is pulled (at a constant rate while either water or a gas is infused through the hole) from a point within the bladder, through the vesical neck, and down the entire urethra; a form of resistance measurement which gives a tracing indicative of the functional length of the urethra and the points of maximal urethral resistance.

pro-fi-lin (prō-fil'in). A small protein that binds to monomeric actin (thus becoming profilactin), preventing premature polymerization of actin.

pro-fi-lom-e-ter (prō-fí-lom'ē-ter). An instrument for measuring the roughness of a surface, e.g., of teeth.

pro-fla-vine (hem-i)sul-fate (prō-flā'vein, -vēn). The neutral sulfate of 3,6-diaminoacridine; a compound closely allied to acriflavine, having similar antiseptic properties.

pro-for-mi-phen (prō-för'mi-fen). SYN phenprobamate.

pro-fun-da (prō-fún'dā). The deep one; a term applied to structures (muscles, nerves, veins, and arteries, etc.) which lie deep in the tissues, especially when contrasted with a similar, more superficial (sublimis) structure. [L. fem. of *profundus*, deep]

pro-fun-dus (prō-fún'dūs) [NA]. Situated at a deeper level in relation to a specific reference point. Cf. superficialis. SYN deep [L.]

pro-fu-sion (prō-fyū'zhūn). A score reflecting the number of visible lesions in a region on chest radiographs of individuals with pneumoconiosis. SEE International Labour Organization Classification. [L. *profusio*, a pouring forth, fr. *profundus*, to pour forth]

pro-ga-bide (prō'gā-bid). (4-((4-chlorophenyl, 5-fluorophenyl) hydroxyphenyl) methylene)amino-butabamide; an anticonvulsant which is a lipid-soluble derivative of the amidated form of aminobutyric acid (GABAamide) that, unlike γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA) itself, is able to cross the blood-brain barrier. Once inside the brain the drug is converted to several metabolites, some of which are active forms of GABA or related compounds which act on GABA receptors to increase inhibition in the brain.

pro-gas-trin (prō-gas'trin). Precursor of gastric secretion in the mucous membrane of the stomach.

pro-ge-nia (prō-jē'nē-ä). SYN prognathism. [pro- + L. *genia*, cheek]

pro-ge-ni-ta-lis (prō-jen-i-tā'lis). On any of the exposed surfaces of the genitalia. [L. prefix *pro*, before, in front of, + *genitalia*, pertaining to the reproductive organs, fr. *gigno*, to bear]

pro-gen-i-tor (prō-jen'i-ter, -tōr). A precursor, ancestor, one who begets. [L.]

pro-ge-ny (prōjē'nē). Offspring; descendants. [L. *progenies*, *progigno*, to beget]

pro-ge-ri-a (prō-jēr'ē-ä) [MIM*176670]. A condition in which normal development in the first year is followed by gross retardation of growth, with a senile appearance characterized by wrinkled skin, total alopecia, and bird-like facies; genetics unclear. SYN Hutchinson-Gilford disease, Hutchinson-Gilford syndrome, premature senility syndrome. [pro- + G. *gēras*, old age]

p. with cataract, p. with microphthalmia, SYN dyscephalia mandibulo-oculofacialis.

pro-ge-s-ta-tion-al (prō-jes-tā'shūn-äl). 1. Favoring pregnancy conducive to gestation; capable of stimulating the uterine changes essential for implantation and growth of a fertilized ovum. Referring to progesterone, or to a drug with progesterone-like properties.

pro-ge-s-ter-one (prō-jes'ter-ōn). 4-pregnene-3,20-dione; an androgenic steroid, believed to be the active principle of the corpus luteum, isolated from the corpus luteum and placenta, synthetically prepared; used to correct abnormalities of the menstrual cycle and as a contraceptive and to control habitual abortion. SYN corpus luteum hormone, luteohormone, pregnancy hormone, progestational hormone.

pro-ge-stin (prō-jes'tin). 1. A hormone of the corpus luteum. Generic term for any substance, natural or synthetic, that effects